

CHAPTER 2

LATIN NOUNS

Vocabulary: 1st Declension Nouns

The 1st group of nouns we will study all end in the letter “a” – puella, cena, casa, fabula, femina. Nouns that have the **same ending** are grouped into the same category. These nouns are called **1st declension nouns**.

Vocabulary: Gender

In Latin, gender is a grammatical concept, meaning gender is determined mainly by the **ending of the noun**. There are 3 genders in Latin—masculine, feminine, and neuter. **Nouns like puella, cena, and casa are feminine nouns.**

Vocabulary: To Decline

Latin nouns have various inflections, or **endings**. These endings signify the noun’s specific role in the sentence. To list all of these noun endings is called **declining**.

Examples:

Horatia cenam parat = Horatia prepares dinner.

Horatiam cena parat = Dinner prepares Horatia.

Vocabulary: Case

Since there are various uses for nouns, Latin puts its nouns into **6 cases**. These cases, or endings, show whether the word is used as the **subject** or the **direct object**, or whether the word indicates **possession**.

LATIN NOUN CASE USES

Nominative Case _____

Nominative Example: Horatia is a girl.

Genitive Case _____

Genitive Example: Horatia's tunic is on fire!

Dative Case _____

Dative Example: I gave Horatia the olives.

Accusative Case _____

Accusative Example: I gave Horatia the olives.

Ablative Case _____

Ablative Example: Scintilla walks with Horatia.

Vocative Case _____

Vocative Example: Horatia, stop working!

DECLINING 1ST DECLENSION NOUNS**NOUN ENDINGS**

Singular

Plural

Nom	a	ae
Gen	ae	arum
Dat	ae	is
Acc	am	as
Ab1	ā	is
Voc	a	ae

Rule: base + endings

Puella, Puellae – girl

Base = Puell- ae

NOM

GEN

DAT

ACC

ABL

VOC

Puella	
Puellae	
Puell	
Puell	
Puell	
Puell	

Chapter 2 – Practice

Decline the following
1st Declension Nouns

Femina, Feminae – woman

Base =

NOM

GEN

DAT

ACC

ABL

VOC

Casa, Casae – house

Base =

NOM

GEN

DAT

ACC

ABL

VOC

Answer the Questions

1. To _____ a noun is to add an ending to a base to signify the noun's specific role in the sentence.

2. The _____ case is used for direct objects.

3. The _____ case is used for subjects and complements.

what gender and declension are nouns that end in "a" like
cena, puella, femina, aqua?
